

Wilmington May 7th 1898
My dear Dr. Watson

Thanks for all
the trouble you have taken about Dr.
Urban's specimens - The box is here all
right. I am to pay him 105 marks, and
suppose I had best buy a draft and
send direct to him. Shall I do this?

It will now doubtless devolve
upon you to finish the Synoptical
Flora. This being so I want to call
your attention to two plants. One is
what I have distributed as *Astragalus*
Dweedyi, being No. 613 Dweedy and 731 Bran-
dage, from Hills along Columbia river
Yakima County, Washington Territory, Oct.
1883. It is evidently the same as a
plant collected by Thomas J. Howell in
"Prairie, Eastern Oregon, June 1880," All

These are fruiting specimens and I have no flowers. It is much like *S. collinus* Druce, as shown in Bessie's and Howell's specimens (the latter the "var. sub-glabra"), but the pods are not pendulous but upright, no longer divaricate stipules and the leaflets longer and narrower. Dr. Gray thought it a good species and the name good but waited for ^{the} flowers which I have never seen but which perhaps you now have.

The other, although we have it in good flower and unripe fruit, is quite a puzzle. It is what I called *Pellium* (*Lithophragma*) *pentandra* and is No. 119 of my 1883, N. D. Druce Collection; No. 52 b., near Bozeman and Jefferson City, Montana Coll. Druce in same Druce; and is also S. G. Call. Druce, "Woods along ⁺ Slough Creek Yellowstone Park, July, 1885". Dr. Gray wrote me that you thought it a *Heuchera* but
* In his Catalogue he says "Along Soda Butte Creek."

I have never been able to see it there although it certainly is one of those species which would help to upset the arrangement of those allied *Desmodium* genera. Druce has put it into his Yellowstone Catalogue page 37.

At the proper time please let me know what you think of these.

You have perhaps wondered why I did not correct "*Desmodium Drucei*". I cannot, so far, in the absence of specimens, see that it is the same as "*Desmodium caespitosum* var. *tenerrimum* Gray" which must be the foundation for the species and so thought it best to let it rest for the present; although you will perhaps think that I am "taking a great deal upon me"; and I must myself admit that it is altogether likely that you are right.

Yours very truly
John M. Coulter